



MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the **SERVICES COMMITTEE** held in the Ludlow Mascall Centre, Lower Galdeford, Ludlow, on **MONDAY 17th SEPTEMBER** at **7.00PM**.

S/31 PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor Pound

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Newbold

Councillors: Davies; Hunt; Perks; Parry; Smithers; Toop

Officers: Gina Wilding, Deputy Town Clerk
Naomi Brotherton, Secretary/Admin Assistant
Sean Turgoose, DLF Supervisor

Also in attendance: Kate Adams, Street Scene, Shropshire Council

S/32 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Phillips.

S/33 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

<u>Member</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Councillor Parry	7	Chairman – Ludlow in Bloom
Councillor Smithers	7	Treasurer – Ludlow in Bloom
Councillor Perks	9b	Involved with Wheeler Road – Pride of Place

Personal Interest

Councillor Hunt Works for Shropshire Housing Association

S/34 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

No comments were made.

S/35 MINUTES

There were no changes to the minutes of the 23rd July 2012. The following points were made.

Castle Gardens/Food Festival

Councillor Perks thanked the Committee for keeping Castle Gardens as a quiet space during the Food Festival as it had been well received by visitors. Councillor Pound voiced his agreement and urged the Committee to visit in the week to appreciate how the space is used during non-Festival periods.

Ludlow Mascall Centre

Councillor Parry asked why the benches outside the Ludlow Mascall Centre following restoration of the wall had not been returned and the Deputy Town Clerk said that she would make enquiries and request for them to be re-instated.

Security of IT

Councillor Smithers raised the question of security of IT given the history at the Buttercross. The Deputy Town Clerk stated that IT issues had nearly been resolved including the provision for backing up data off-site.

Buttercross

The Deputy Town Clerk informed the Committee that a report had been received from the structural engineer for repair of the Buttercross and this would be paid for by Town Council insurance. Specification for repairs had been sent to English Heritage and once it had been approved, work would commence. Two Councillors raised the issue that further cracks had appeared in what they felt were load bearing blocks.

Boxing Club

The Deputy Town Clerk advised the Committee that a ground breaking ceremony would take place on the 27th September to which all Members would be invited. Work would then commence on the 1st October and it was anticipated that stage I would take three months. She reminded the Committee that Colin Richards was the Project Supervisor and the partners were Shropshire Housing Association, Total Response and volunteers on the project. Councillor Perks thanked the Deputy Town Clerk for the update that had been made and asked if the Constitution of the Boxing Club and Service Level Agreements of the partners involved were available. The Deputy Town Clerk advised the Committee that the project management was covered by stringent CDM regulations and health and safety and the relevant paperwork was in place.

At this point Councillor Hunt declared a personal interest.

RESOLVED (7:0:1)

That the Minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on the 23rd July 2012, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

S/36

COMPLIMENTS

Members received the compliment.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That the compliment be noted.

S/37 LUDLOW IN BLOOM

The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the second Draft of the Service Level Agreement would be considered at the Policy & Finance Committee on the 24th September 2012.

RESOLVED (7:0:1)

That the Ludlow in the Bloom minutes be noted.

S/38 UPDATES FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

Kate Adams from Shropshire Council was invited to speak and she reminded the Committee that if there were problems they should get in contact. She updated the Committee that Street Scene had moved to Craven Arms and highlighted issues with weed control in the Town which had now been addressed. She also confirmed that Ringway would be taking over from Veolia for waste collections.

Following a question from Councillor Parry, Kate Adams confirmed that the cobbles on Broad Street had been identified as requiring replacement and funding was being sought.

S/39 HEDGE AT WHEELER ROAD PLAY AREA

The DLF Supervisor introduced his report with the recommendation that a 20 metre section of hedge be removed at Wheeler Road Play area for Health and Safety issues and to also decrease anti-social behaviour.

There was considerable discussion surrounding Health and Safety and issues and anti-social behaviour.

One Member suggested that a contractor be employed to reduced the height and width of the hedge as the DLF had been under considerable pressure this year due to an unprecedented wet year, creating additional work.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That: -

- i) The Deputy Town Clerk is authorised to obtain a quotes from contractors to reduce the hedge in height and width;
- ii) That a public consultation is carried out asking residents views.

S/40 **LITTER AT WHEELER ROAD**

The Mayor highlighted the increasing problem of litter at Wheeler Road Play Area and the possible sources.

There was considerable discussion on how this should be managed. Kate Adams from Shropshire Council offered a daily litter picking service, Monday to Friday for a cost of £1,000 with the option to be put onto the emergency rota.

One Member suggested a school litter picking initiative and another Member suggested that either the Youth Group could be involved or Friends of Wheeler Road Play Area could be formed from residents which would give the public more pride in the area.

RESOLVED (7:0:1)

That:-

- i) The Deputy Town Clerk be authorised to explore options and report back to the next Services Committee;
- ii) That the Youth Forum is contacted to seek the views of the skateboard park users.

S/41 **WINTER PLANTING SCHEMES**

The Mayor re-iterated that the DLF had been overstretched due to unprecedented weather conditions and proposed that winter planting does not occur this year, leaving the beds to rest.

There was a debate over whether planting should occur or not. A Member highlighted that if beds were not planted this would allow money in the budget to replace some of the tired shrubs.

RECOMMENDED (7:0:1)

That:-

- i) No winter planting occurs in the beds this year;
- ii) Signage is put into the beds informing the public of the decision;
- iii) The planters are put into storage and a different site chosen for next year.

S/42 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC: PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

The Chairman moved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business pursuant to section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That the public be excluded and the meeting continue in closed session.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Chairman

Date

N.B. Confidential Minutes will be issued.